

offices, but in 1802 all property qualifications were eliminated from the state constitutions.

However, many municipalities still require property qualifications as a requirement for holding office, and a small number still require that in order to vote one has to be a property owner.

The Committee felt that this archaic provision should be eliminated. They strongly recommend that this Committee adopt that provision.

We felt that there was no longer any reasonable or theoretical justification to this archaic and undemocratic process and that it should be eliminated both as a requirement for voting and as a requirement for holding office.

*(Vice-President James Clark assumed the Chair.)*

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): The Chair would like to make it clear that the questions directed to Delegate Koss at this time would refer only to section 1.

Are there any questions?

There being no questions, Delegate Koss, Delegate Rybczynski, you have the minority report. Will you come forward?

Delegate Byrnes.

DELEGATE BYRNES: I have one question in regard to section 1. Actually, I have a series of questions that deal with the applicability of all these sections to the various levels of government. I wonder if we might make an exception to the rule of considering these questions seriatim.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Do you mind yielding?

DELEGATE KOSS: Would you raise them as we consider each one? I do not want to repeat; that was the attempt made in varying the presentation.

DELEGATE BYRNES: If I may, I will just ask the first one. We all know the titles have no legal significance. Can we say for the record that there is no question that that section refers to federal, state, and county elections?

DELEGATE KOSS: I am glad to tell you, Delegate Byrnes, that there is no question in my mind.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate Rybczynski, come forward, please, sir.

As I understand, your report is just on the voting age.

Delegate Scanlan.

DELEGATE SCANLAN: May I suggest the absence of a quorum, sir? He has an important report to present and I think we ought to have a full house, even if I am going to vote against him.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Will the Clerk ring the bell, please?

All delegates please take their seats and answer the quorum call.

Have all delegates answered the quorum call?

The Clerk will record the call.

A quorum being present, this session of the Committee of the Whole will continue. The Chair recognizes Delegate Rybczynski to present Minority Report S&E-2.

DELEGATE RYBCZYNSKI: Mr. Chairman, Madam Chairman of our Suffrage and Elections Committee, and fellow delegates, we want you to know on this question of 21 versus 18, 16, 19, and 20, that by no means did the Committee fully agree until about a day and a half of balloting.

Now, if you will look at your proposals, you will find that there was a proposal for the age of 16, and in our Committee that received two votes. Then in the first balloting, there was no solid majority on any age. The only age that stuck together was 21. It was the same on the first ballot and it is the same today.

If you will look at our minority report you will find it starts with seven names. These are the seven names as appeared on the very first day of balloting. The other eight members—the vote was eight to seven—were scattered all over the field from 16 to 20. So that I need not tell you, what eventually happened was that there was a compromise among the various minorities that eventually became the majority.

Now, I cannot resist at this time informing you of a very important event which has been occurring around here for the last day or so. The very same people who screamed so loudly last week about undue pressures being applied in voting have been scoring you, not me by any means, but you. Now, let us get this straight. I am not including my Madam Chairman by any means. I do not think she has even been aware of this going on; but I have been aware. I sit in the back